

PCJSS RELEASE

Brussels, 19 December 1997

13639/97 (Presse 406)

P. 119/97

**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on  
Chittagong Hill tracts agreement**

The European Union warmly congratulates the Government of Bangladesh and the PCJSS for bringing to a successful conclusion the process started by previous governments to resolve the Chittagong Hill Tracts dispute. The EU is confident that a speedy implementation of the agreement will enhance the peaceful development of the region to the benefit of all living there and to the country as a whole.

The Union would also like to stress the importance it attaches to a substantial role for the United Nation's agencies in the implementation of the agreement.